



## **Veterinary Regulations, 2018**

The FEI Veterinary Department has carried out a complete re-write of the Veterinary Regulations during 2017.

The principle aims of the re-write are to remove unnecessary repetitions, contradictions and information from the current regulations. Information has been removed to ensure that the contents of the document focus strictly on regulatory matters.

The structure of the Veterinary Regulations has been changed. A logical approach has been proposed and we anticipate that this will make the document more user-friendly in the field situation.

The changes to the Veterinary Regulations are described below and a marked up version of the Veterinary Regulations is available on request from the FEI Veterinary Department.

### **Accepted Changes**

The major changes to the Veterinary Regulations concern pony measuring, the treatment of horses with medication and supportive therapies and the introduction of Permitted Equine Therapists.

#### *Pony Measuring*

The changes concerning pony measuring regulations include the FEI reserving the right to carry out unannounced pony measuring, a member of the Ground Jury attending pony measuring where possible and where ponies are presented in bridles, they are to stand on a loose rein.

The FEI also reserves the right to request out of competition measurements and where requested by the Ground Jury, this must be carried out within seventy two hours of the conclusion of the event. The procedure for out of competition measuring process, regulatory height and funding have been determined.

Ponies having measured out during competitions and out of competition measurements, and ponies that have not been presented for measuring following request, will not be permitted to compete in any the FEI Event until the relevant measurement has been carried out and the pony's height has been determined.

Clarification regarding the role of the Veterinary Department in the administration of pony measuring and the procedures required for the management of ponies after having measured out at the first competition measurement, have been made.

#### *Veterinary Treatment*

Horses will no longer be treated by injection with any substance prior to competition on the day in which they compete. An exception will be granted for classes starting at 1800hrs or later.

Veterinary Forms 2 and 4 will no longer be in use. Although it will still be possible to use substances previously recorded on these forms, their use will no longer have to be declared. Veterinary Forms 1 and 3 will remain in use and be renamed to Veterinary Forms A and B respectively. Copies of Veterinary Forms that have been signed by the Veterinary Delegate and Ground Jury will only be provided to the PTV administering the treatment. Medication logbooks must not be kept in the horse's passport or handed to the Veterinary Delegate at events



In addition to changes in the treatment of horses at events, vaccines must not be given to horses at events and it will no longer be necessary to record the use of GnRH vaccines.

#### *Permitted Equine Therapists & Supportive Therapies:*

Clarification has been provided regarding the supportive therapies that can be used during FEI events and the personnel permitted to carry them out. Supportive therapies have been categorized into Non-Restricted and Restricted Therapies. Restricted Therapies will be carried out by trained personnel, known as 'Permitted Equine Therapists'. Permitted Equine Therapists will be listed on the FEI database and issued with an FEI ID card. Separate guidelines will be produced and circulated to National Federations concerning the training requirements and enrollment of Permitted Equine Therapists.

Stewards will be able to carry out checks to inspect the Permitted Equine Therapist's ID card, and verify the therapy they are carrying out. They may also ensure that only Permitted Equine Therapists are carrying out Restricted Therapies.

#### *Facilities*

Minor changes have been made to the provision of isolation stables, testing and treatment boxes. All stables provided must be of high quality and well-constructed to provide a safe environment for the horse. Safe electrical points must be available through the stables. A minimum of two isolation stables and two testing boxes will be required and situated in a secure location. Organising Committees may provide only one testing box at competitions where there are fewer than ten participating horses. In addition, a rubber matting floor must be installed in testing boxes that have been constructed on grass and the Testing Veterinarian must have access to a supply of running water. The FEI Veterinary Department may request additional treatment and testing boxes and the Organising Committee must produce a stables evacuation plan. The use of common water troughs will no longer be permitted, however an exception has been granted for Endurance Events. With respect to the minimum stabling requirements, stables must now be provided for CEI3\* events. Measuring pads provided for pony measuring must be checked to ensure they are level using a spirit level or a laser. An examination of arrival area must be determined for the safe examination of horses and a covered area will be required for the collection of equine passports.

Clarifications have been made to the required veterinary services and equipment available at the event and the advance arrangement required in the case of sending an equine fatality to a post mortem examination facility. Veterinary service managers must ensure that all veterinary services are in place before the first horse arrives at the event venue and must be capable of carrying out the role of a Treating Veterinarian.

With respect to supportive facilities, the Organising Committee will provide the Examining Veterinarians access to secretarial facilities and provide Measuring Veterinarians with a start list. With respect to Stewards, an adequate number must be available for escorting people through the stables during the night. The Organising Committee is no longer responsible for making arrangements for samples to be analysed at FEI labs, this obligation will be carried out by the Testing Veterinarian or Veterinary Delegate.

#### *FEI Veterinarians*

All details concerning the educational requirements for FEI veterinarians have been removed from the regulations and will be published on the FEI website.

Clarification has been made with respect to Veterinary Delegates being responsible for ensuring that the examination on arrival takes place. They will not be permitted to treat any horses at the event, including horses competing in national classes, unless in an absolute emergency. The Veterinary Delegate will attend the event on the day before the horse inspection and will be responsible for ensuring their rotation at events. Changes have been made to the rotation of Veterinary Delegates at events where Assistant Veterinary Delegates will be free from the obligation of rotation.



Assistant Veterinary Delegates may be appointed by the Organising Committee following discussion with the Veterinary Delegate or at the request of the FEI Veterinary Department.

Testing, Measuring and Examining Veterinarians will be required to submit their respective reports and all supporting paperwork that is required has been clarified. The report and any supporting paperwork will have to be sent to the FEI Veterinary Department within a specified timeframe following their duties at events. Failure to report within the specified timeframes may result in a sanction.

Clarification has been made regarding the appointment of the Holding Box Veterinarian and their role in reporting clinical findings. The Holding Box Veterinarian must be a member of the Veterinary Commission where applicable or appointed by the Veterinary Delegate in conjunction with the Veterinary Services Manager. The Holding Box Veterinarian must only provide clinical information and not their opinion on the horse's fitness to compete. At events where advisors to the Veterinary Services Manager are required, the advisor will be appointed within specific timeframes according to the type of event.

Athlete's Private Veterinarians will now be asked to submit their details and details of the horses under their care, before entering the secured stable area.

#### *Horse inspections and the departure of horses*

A barrier must be placed between the horse inspection area and the public. During the Horse Inspection horses will not be permitted to wear bandages or blankets/rugs or equivalent and will not be presented with their identity concealed in any manner. Horse handlers must also be suitably dressed for handling horses. The handler, PR, groom, Chef d'Equipe and PTV associated with the horse may enter the holding box. During re-inspections for Driving, the Veterinary Delegate must provide their evaluation of the horse before voting commences. Clarification as to when morning re-inspections are carried out and the required procedure have been made. Re-inspections are not permitted following a morning re-inspection and re-inspections are not permitted following a second horse inspection that takes place before a final competition. Horses that have not been accepted at the horse inspection or withdrawn following the holding box examination will not be permitted to compete in national classes at the same event.

With respect to limb sensitivity examinations, should a horse be disqualified for abnormal limb sensitivity results, the horse will be allowed to train however this must be carried out under the supervision of an FEI Official who must stop the horse if they identify any welfare issue.

Clarification has been made regarding horses that leave the venue during the event for veterinary examination and their management on return to the venue. Horses will be permitted to re-enter the venue and continue in the competition if they have left to undergo examination at a referral clinic. For all Endurance events of 160km in one day or an average of 100km in two or more days, horses are to remain under veterinary supervision for 4 hours following the conclusion of the event or for eight hours if they have received invasive treatment, or at the discretion of the Veterinary Commission.

#### *Equine Fatalities*

VDs will be responsible for reporting equine fatalities and ensuring a full post mortem examination is carried out regardless of the circumstances surrounding the horse's death. Where possible post mortem examination will be carried out by a pathologist at a dedicated veterinary pathology facility and the standardised FEI Post Mortem Examination report will be completed.

#### *Equine Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Programme (EADCMP)*



Clarifications have been made concerning the EADCMP. The reasons for targeted sampling must be clearly recorded and clarification has been made regarding the obligatory use of testing boxes, the notification procedure and sampling process. In addition, the medication logbook must now not be kept in the horse's passport or handed to the event's Veterinary Delegate.

#### *National Federations*

The role of the National Federation has been clarified with respect to the recruitment and approval of Testing Technician and Permitted Equine Therapists applications, sourcing a measuring pad for out of competition and appeal pony measurements and the procedure for removal of veterinarians from the FEI Veterinarians' List. National Federations will no longer be responsible for ensuring the rotation of Veterinary Delegates at events and are requested to send a calendar of FEI events taking place in their Federation to their national veterinary authority on an annual basis.

#### *Sanctions*

New sanctions have been included regarding the failure to update passports for vaccination records not up to date, identification anomalies and failure to correct them, failure to meet reporting obligations, failure to obtain Permitted Equine Therapists status for carrying out Restricted Therapies and the treatment of horses on competition days prior to competition.

FEI Veterinary Department  
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